ALL NEW
DC
NO. 313 JULY
40¢
BAT MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE SCARRED SIDE OF THE COIN HAS COME UP--
--THEN TWO-FACE STRIKES AGAIN-- TWICE AS DEADLY AS BEFORE!
C-980
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She's so snoopy, she'll want to know where you got that neat SUPERMOBILE. Don't tell her it's from Corgi. See, we wanted to make these cars just the right size (and just the right price) for *you*.

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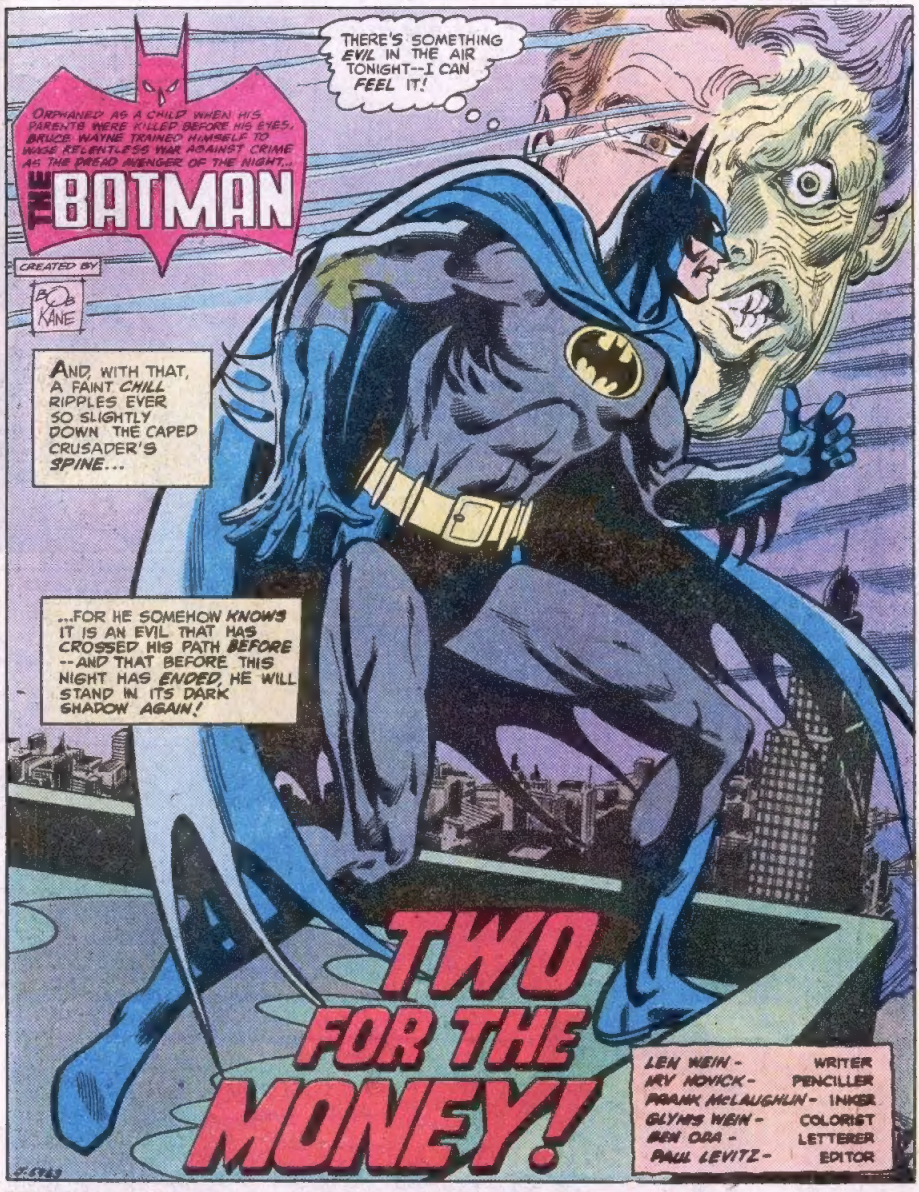
THERE'S SOMETHING EVIL IN THE AIR TONIGHT--I CAN FEEL IT!
ORPHANED AS A CHILD WHEN HIS PARENTS WERE KILLED BEFORE HIS EYES, BRUCE WAYNE TRAINED HIMSELF TO WAGE RELENTLESS WAR AGAINST CRIME AS THE DREAD AVENGER OF THE NIGHT...
THE BATMAN
CREATED BY BOB KANE
AND, WITH THAT, A FAINT CHILL RIPPLES EVER SO SLIGHTLY DOWN THE CAPED CRUSADER'S SPINE...
...FOR HE SOMEHOW KNOWS IT IS AN EVIL THAT HAS CROSSED HIS PATH BEFORE --AND THAT BEFORE THIS NIGHT HAS ENDED HE WILL STAND IN ITS DARK SHADOW AGAIN!
TWO FOR THE MONEY!
LEN WEIN - WRITER
IRV NOVICK - PENCILLER
FRANK McLAUGHLIN - INKER
GLYNIS WEIN - COLORIST
BEN ORA - LETTERER
PAUL LEVITZ - EDITOR

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A SECLUDED TELEPHONE BOOTH, SOMEWHERE IN MIDTOWN GOTHAM...
HELLO-- GOTHAM CITY POLICE? I WANT TO REPORT A ROBBERY!
MY NAME? JUST-- AH-- CALL ME A CONCERNED CITIZEN!
LOOK, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO ARGUE-- SO YOU'D BETTER LISTEN!
IF YOU WANT TO RECOVER THE MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM BINARY ACTIVATION CODE THAT WAS STOLEN A FEW DAYS AGO, I CAN TELL YOU WHERE TO FIND IT!
HOW DO I KNOW THIS? HOW ELSE? I HELPED STEAL IT!
NOW WRITE THIS DOWN! THE CODE IS IN A MANILA ENVELOPE, HIDDEN INSIDE THE--
--HUH?
CLICK!
OH NO.
SHAME ON YOU, SPECS -- TELLING TALES OUT OF SCHOOL LIKE THAT!
ARE YOU TRYING TO GET US ALL INTO TROUBLE?
N-N- NO, BOSS-- I'M TRYING TO KEEP YOU OUT OF TROUBLE!
TELEPHONE
DO TELL!
LOOK, STEALING THAT CODE SO YOU COULD SELL IT BACK TO AMERICA IS ONE THING--
--BUT OFFERING TO SELL IT TO A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT AS WELL IS TREASON!
NOT AT ALL, SPECS!
AS I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU, IT'S MERELY A CLASSIC DOUBLE-CROSS!
AND WHAT COULD BE MORE FITTING FOR-- TWO-FACE!
NOW BE A GOOD BOY AND RETURN THE CODE YOU STOLE FROM ME-- AND WE'LL PUT ALL THIS BEHIND US!
2

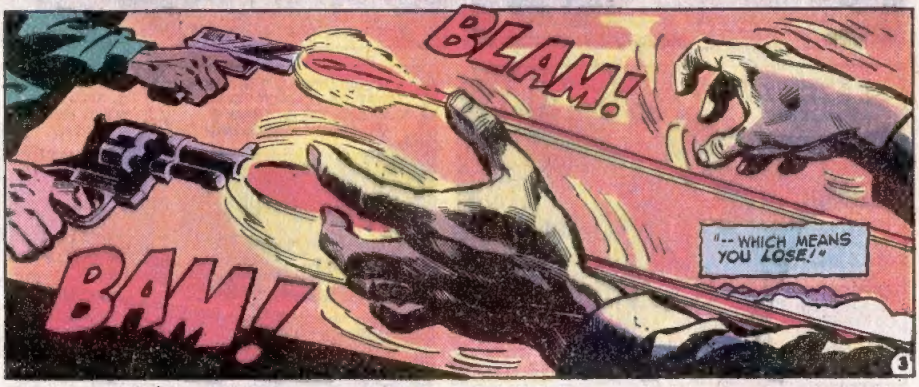
BUT I CAN'T DO THAT, BOSS-- I STASHED THE CODE WHERE NOBODY CAN TOUCH IT FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS!
THAT'S TOO BAD, SPECS-- FOR YOU!
BOSS, PLEASE-- GIVE ME A CHANCE!

DON!T WORRY ABOUT THAT, SPECS! YOU ALWAYS HAVE A CHANCE WITH TWO-FACE!
YOUR FATE WON'T BE DECIDED BY ME -- BUT BY MY LUCKY TWO-HEADED COIN!

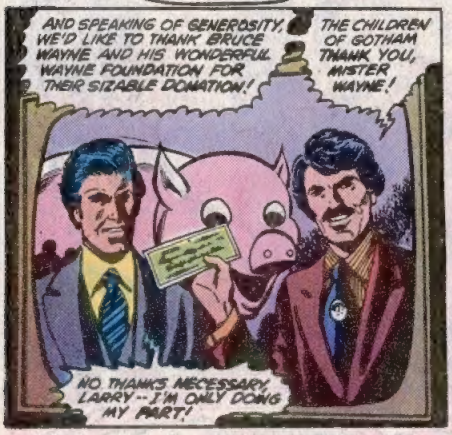
IF THE CLEAN FACE -- THE GOOD SIDE -- COMES UP, YOU'RE FORGIVEN... BUT IF THE SCARRED FACE -- THE EVIL SIDE -- PREVAILS, YOU'RE DEAD!

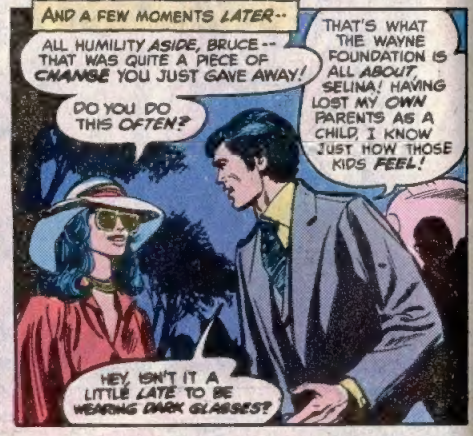
A SINGLE FLIP OF THE COIN, SPECS-- WIN OR LOSE!
WHAT BETTER CHANCE COULD YOU ASK FOR?

FOR A SINGLE INTERMINABLE INSTANT, THE SILVER DISC SPINS LAZILY THROUGH THE AIR, THEN...
I'M SORRY, SPECS, BUT THE SCARRED SIDE WINS--


BLAM!
BAM!
"-- WHICH MEANS YOU LOSE!"

THE UNFORTUNATE SPECS SPRAWLS LIFELESS TO THE PAVEMENT, WHILE SEVERAL BLOCKS NORTH, IN GOTHAM SQUARE PARK...
AS YOU KNOW, THIS 48-HOUR EXTRAVAGANZA IS DEVOTED TO OUR CITY'S YOUNGSTERS, SO PLEASE OPEN YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR POCKETBOOKS -- AND CONTRIBUTE WHAT YOU CAN!
GOOD EVENING -- I'M LARRY BRENT! WELCOME BACK TO GOTHAM'S SECOND ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TELETHON!
2ND ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TELETHON
GOTHAM NETWORK TV
THERE ARE STILL A FEW MORE HOURS UNTIL THE SPECIAL TIME-LOCK WILL OPEN OUR STAINLESS STEEL PIGGY BANK -- SO GIVE AND GIVE GENEROUSLY!
REMEMBER, BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD, ONE OF THESE KIDS COULD BE YOUR OWN!


AND SPEAKING OF GENEROSITY, WE'D LIKE TO THANK BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WONDERFUL WAYNE FOUNDATION FOR THEIR SIZABLE DONATION!
THE CHILDREN OF GOTHAM THANK YOU, MISTER WAYNE!
NO THANKS NECESSARY, LARRY -- I'M ONLY DOING MY PART!


AND A FEW MOMENTS LATER--
ALL HUMILITY ASIDE, BRUCE -- THAT WAS QUITE A PIECE OF CHANGE YOU JUST GAVE AWAY!
DO YOU DO THIS OFTEN?
THAT'S WHAT THE WAYNE FOUNDATION IS ALL ABOUT, SELINA! HAVING LOST MY OWN PARENTS AS A CHILD, I KNOW JUST HOW THOSE KIDS FEEL!
HEY, ISN'T IT A LITTLE LATE TO BE WEARING DARK GLASSES?

I WAS WEARING THE HAT AND GLASSES FOR YOUR SAKE, BRUCE.
OH?
I DIDN'T THINK IT COULD HELP YOUR REPUTATION TO BE SEEN OUT IN PUBLIC WITH AN EX-CONVICT LIKE SELINA KYLE!
THAT'S A LITTLE BIT SILLY, ISN'T IT?...

...CONSIDERING I'M TAKING THAT EX-CONVICT TO DINNER AT ONE OF GOTHAM'S POSHEST RESTAURANTS!
MISTER WAYNE, I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK!
TAXI
4

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

Hey Kids, have as much fun in Fruit Stripe Land as you do chewing Fruit Stripe Gum.

## Find all the fun things about Fruit Stripe Gum.

There's a whole herd of fun flavors in every pack.

| Find: | Check: |
|---|---|
| 3 oranges | ___ |
| 4 cherries | ___ |
| 3 lemons | ___ |
| 4 limes | ___ |
| 10 grapes | ___ |

Every stick has wild, colorful fruity stripes.

| Find: | Check: |
|---|---|
| 2 sticks of lime | ___ |
| 1 stick of grape | ___ |
| 3 sticks of orange | ___ |
| 2 sticks of lemon | ___ |
| 4 sticks of cherry | ___ |
| 3 sticks of bubble gum | ___ |

You can blow lots of different big, juicy, fun bubbles.

| Find: | Check: |
|---|---|
| 3 grape bubbles | ___ |
| 2 cherry bubbles | ___ |
| 5 lemon bubbles | ___ |
| 2 bubble gum bubbles | ___ |

Regular and Bubble Gum

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**JOY BUZZER #450**
Wind it up . . . Wear it on your finger like a ring & give your friends the S-H-O-C-K of their life! $1.00

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Insert a blank piece of paper into the machine ... turn the knob ... PRESTO ... from the other side comes a previously hidden REAL DOLLAR BILL! Insert a dollar bill & see it change to a $5 or $10!
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**WHOOPS #153** $1.00

**BLOODY MEN SOAP #095** $1.00

**#812** $1.00
Just a few drops on your skin ... it looks like you're really bleeding. Absolutely safe. Large tube.

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TOTAL ENCLOSED

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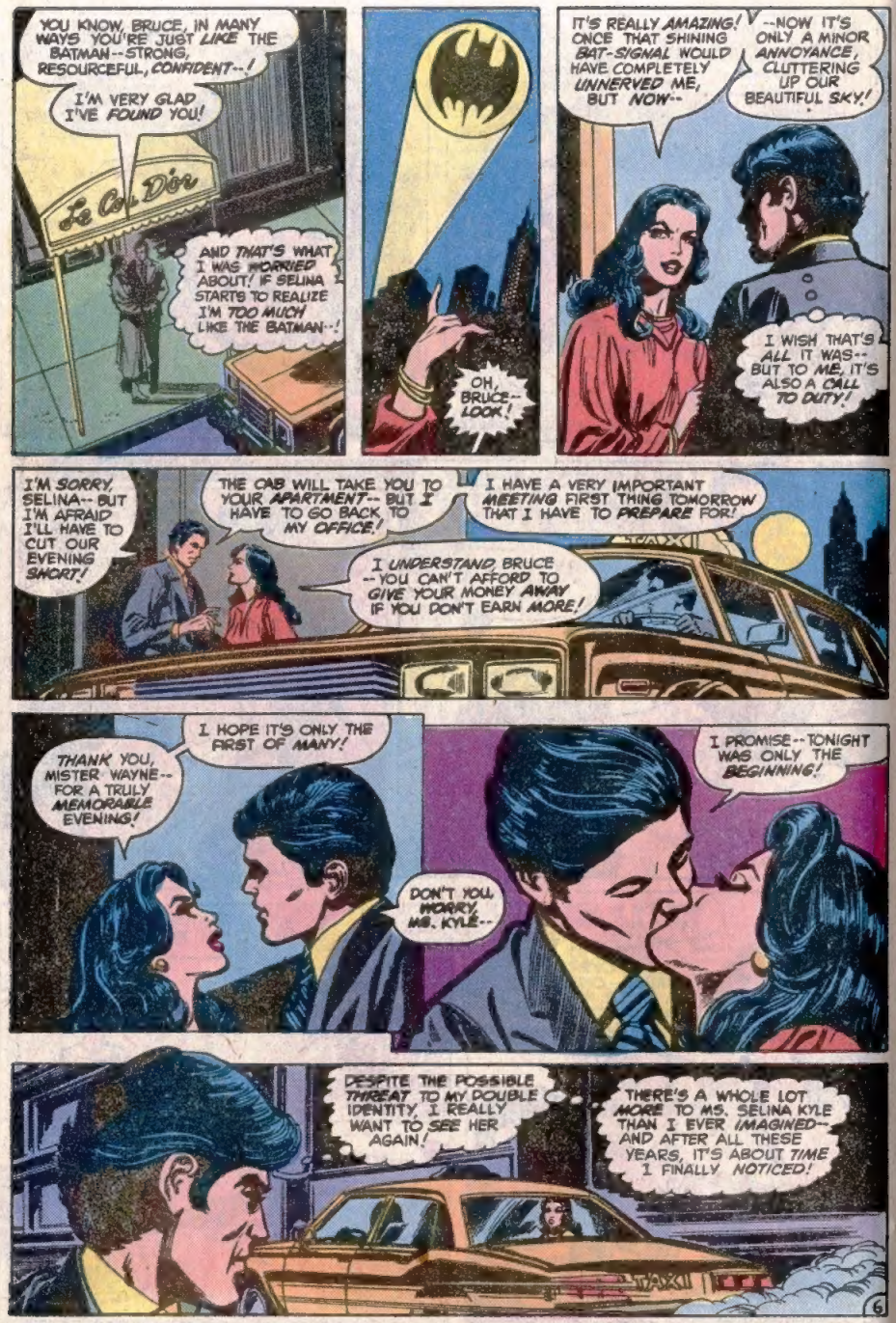
THUS...
I HAVE TO ADMIT I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT TONIGHT, SELINA--
--BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN I'VE ENJOYED MYSELF MORE!
THE FEELING IS MUTUAL, BRUCE--
--BUT WHAT WERE YOU EXPECTING? MY HISSING AND SCRATCHING DAYS AS THE CATWOMAN ARE ALL OVER, REMEMBER?
IT'S TIME I STARTED BEING JUST ...A WOMAN!
AND A STUNNINGLY BEAUTIFUL ONE, AT THAT! BUT SINCE YOU BROUGHT THE SUBJECT UP, SELINA-- WHY DID YOU DO IT?
EMBARK ON A LIFE OF CRIME, I MEAN!
TO BE HONEST, BRUCE-- I REALLY DON'T KNOW!
PARTLY FOR THE THRILLS, I SUPPOSE-- AND TO ATTRACT THE BATMAN'S ATTENTION!
YOU KNOW THERE WAS A TIME I THOUGHT I LOVED HIM!
AND NOW?
NOW I'M IN LOVE WITH LIFE-- AND FREEDOM!
I WANT TO START OVER, BRUCE-- CARVE A WHOLE NEW NICHE FOR MYSELF...
MS. KYLE, THERE IS NOTHING THAT WOULD PLEASE ME MORE!
...IF YOU'LL HELP ME.
13


YOU KNOW, BRUCE, IN MANY WAYS YOU'RE JUST LIKE THE BATMAN--STRONG, RESOURCEFUL, CONFIDENT--!
I'M VERY GLAD I'VE FOUND YOU!
Le Coq D'or
AND THAT'S WHAT I WAS WORRIED ABOUT! IF SELINA STARTS TO REALIZE I'M TOO MUCH LIKE THE BATMAN--!
OH, BRUCE--LOOK!
IT'S REALLY AMAZING! ONCE THAT SHINING BAT-SIGNAL WOULD HAVE COMPLETELY UNNERVED ME, BUT NOW--
--NOW IT'S ONLY A MINOR ANNOYANCE, CLUTTERING UP OUR BEAUTIFUL SKY!
I WISH THAT'S ALL IT WAS--BUT TO ME, IT'S ALSO A CALL TO DUTY!
I'M SORRY, SELINA--BUT I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO CUT OUR EVENING SHORT!
THE CAB WILL TAKE YOU TO YOUR APARTMENT--BUT I HAVE TO GO BACK TO MY OFFICE!
I HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT MEETING FIRST THING TOMORROW THAT I HAVE TO PREPARE FOR!
I UNDERSTAND, BRUCE--YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO GIVE YOUR MONEY AWAY IF YOU DON'T EARN MORE!
THANK YOU, MISTER WAYNE--FOR A TRULY MEMORABLE EVENING!
I HOPE IT'S ONLY THE FIRST OF MANY!
I PROMISE--TONIGHT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING!
DON'T YOU WORRY, MS. KYLE--
DESPITE THE POSSIBLE THREAT TO MY DOUBLE IDENTITY, I REALLY WANT TO SEE HER AGAIN!
THERE'S A WHOLE LOT MORE TO MS. SELINA KYLE THAN I EVER IMAGINED--AND AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, IT'S ABOUT TIME I FINALLY NOTICED!
TAXI
6

AND WITHIN MINUTES...
YOU RANG, COMMISSIONER GORDON?
YES, OLD FRIEND -- THOUGHT THIS MIGHT INTEREST YOU!
H.Q. RECEIVED A STRANGE PHONE CALL EARLIER! WHEN WE TRACED THE CALL BACK TO THIS BOOTH, WE FOUND OURSELVES A CORPSE!
HIS NAME WAS SPECS -- AND APPARENTLY, HE WAS INVOLVED IN THE RECENT THEFT OF A TOP-SECRET BINARY MISSILE DEFENSE CODE!
ANY IDEA WHO HE WAS WORKING FOR -- WHO'D WANT HIM DEAD?
NONE, I'M AFRAID -- BUT WHOEVER THEY ARE, THEY'RE VICIOUS!
SPECS WAS SHOT TWICE -- ONCE THROUGH THE HEAD AND ONCE THROUGH THE HEART!
OH?
AND IT WAS A FIRST-CLASS WASTE OF AMMUNITION, IF YOU ASK ME!
THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO SHOOT HIM TWICE -- SINCE EITHER SHOT WAS INSTANTLY FATAL!
YOU'RE WRONG, COMMISSIONER --
--SPECS' KILLER DID HAVE TO SHOOT HIM TWICE!
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN, BATMAN?
A STOLEN BINARY CODE ... A MURDER USING TWO PERFECTLY-PLACED BULLETS...
THERE'S ONLY ONE EXPLANATION THAT MAKES ANY SENSE!
TWO-FACE IS BACK ON THE LOOSE --
--AND I HAVE TO STOP HIM BEFORE HE KILLS AGAIN!!

ON GOTHAM'S LOWER EAST SIDE, WHERE NOT ALL THE SHADOWS ARE CAST BY THE HAZY MOONLIGHT, A SILENT FIGURE KEEPS WATCH ON A DIMLY-LIT APARTMENT--
--THE BIZARRELY-DECORATED SANCTUARY OF THE JEKYLL-HYDE HOODLUM KNOWN AS TWO-FACE...
WOULD YOU MIND TURNING THAT TELEVISION OFF, TWAIN? I'M TRYING VERY HARD TO CONCENTRATE!
BUT THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' WE CAN DO ABOUT YER STOLEN CODE TILL THEM 48 HOURS ARE UP, BOSS--
--AND THEY GOT [illegible] UP ON THE TELETHON!
C'MON, BOSS-- GIVE US A BREAK, WILL YA?
GIVE YOU A BREAK, TWAIN? IT WILL BE MY PLEASURE!
WHICH WOULD YOU PREFER... AN ARM... A LEG?
OR HOW ABOUT YOUR MISERABLE NECK?
P-P-PLEASE, BOSS-- NO! I--I WAS ONLY KIDDIN'!
YOU WANT THE SET OFF, BOSS-- YOU GOT IT--!
UH UH UH, DEUCE-- DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL!
WHO--?!?
WHO ELSE?
LET'S GO, TWO-FACE-- YOUR PADDED CELL IS WAITING!
BLAST YOU, BATMAN-- HOW DID YOU FIND ME HERE?
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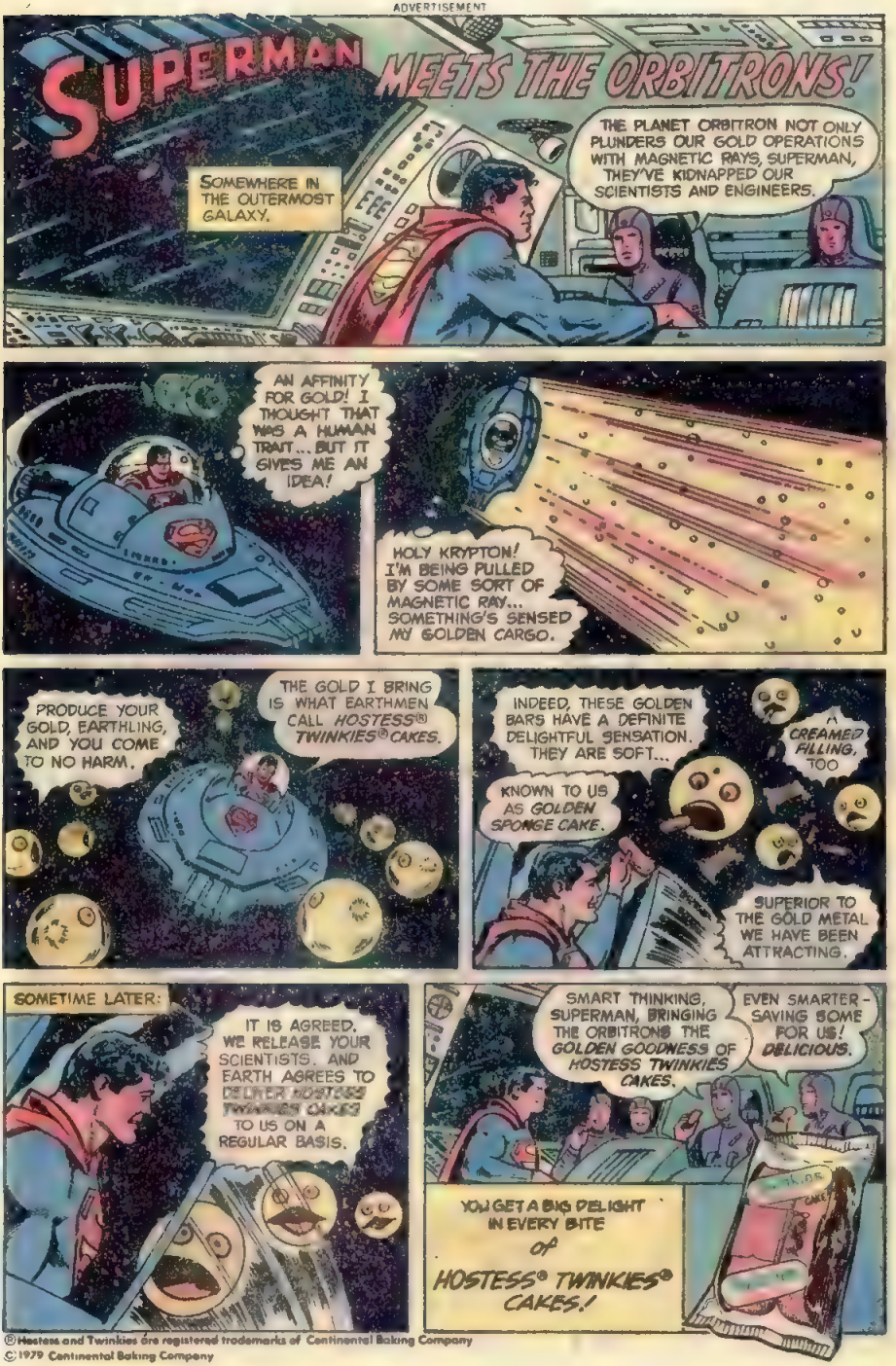
SUPERMAN MEETS THE ORBITRONS!
SOMEWHERE IN THE OUTERMOST GALAXY.
THE PLANET ORBITRON NOT ONLY PLUNDERS OUR GOLD OPERATIONS WITH MAGNETIC RAYS, SUPERMAN, THEY'VE KIDNAPPED OUR SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS.
AN AFFINITY FOR GOLD! I THOUGHT THAT WAS A HUMAN TRAIT... BUT IT GIVES ME AN IDEA!
HOLY KRYPTON! I'M BEING PULLED BY SOME SORT OF MAGNETIC RAY... SOMETHING'S SENSED MY GOLDEN CARGO.
PRODUCE YOUR GOLD, EARTHLING, AND YOU COME TO NO HARM.
THE GOLD I BRING IS WHAT EARTHMEN CALL HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES.
INDEED, THESE GOLDEN BARS HAVE A DEFINITE DELIGHTFUL SENSATION. THEY ARE SOFT...
A CREAMED FILLING, TOO.
KNOWN TO US AS GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE.
SUPERIOR TO THE GOLD METAL WE HAVE BEEN ATTRACTING.
SOMETIME LATER:
IT IS AGREED. WE RELEASE YOUR SCIENTISTS. AND EARTH AGREES TO DELIVER HOSTESS TWINKIES CAKES TO US ON A REGULAR BASIS.
SMART THINKING, SUPERMAN, BRINGING THE ORBITRONS THE GOLDEN GOODNESS OF HOSTESS TWINKIES CAKES.
EVEN SMARTER - SAVING SOME FOR US! DELICIOUS.
YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE of HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES!

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©1979 Continental Baking Company

THIS IS THE ONE!
THIS IS THE ISSUE WHERE THE PIECES OF THE PUZZLE COME TOGETHER -- AND
EXPLODE!!
THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE
FLASH
40¢
ZAP! YOU'RE DEAD!
You are cordially invited to attend THE LAST DANCE and witness the DEATH of
DON'T MISS IT! ON SALE EVERYWHERE JULY 12TH!

WHERE ELSE WOULD YOU BE? THE ADDRESS HERE IS 222 SECOND STREET, APARTMENT 2-B!
THE ONE NICE THING ABOUT YOUR PARTICULAR PSYCHOSIS IS THAT IT MAKES YOU SO PREDICTABLE!
THEN CAN YOU PREDICT MY NEXT MOVE?
SURE! YOU'RE GOING TO ORDER YOUR GOON SQUAD HERE TO JUMP ME!
YOU HEARD THE MAN, BOYS--JUMP HIM!!
SEE? THERE'S JUST ONE SMALL PROBLEM--
--THESE CLODS COULDN'T JUMP ROPE WITHOUT HELP!
UUNNHH!!
OOOFFF!!
WHUMP
I HATE TO SAY IT, TWO-FACE--BUT YOU'RE SLIPPING!
THERE WAS A TIME YOU WOULDN'T HAVE LOOKED TWICE AT PUNKS LIKE THESE--AND NOW YOU'RE HIRING THEM!
PUNKS, HUH?
WE'LL SHOW YA WHAT KIND'A PUNKS WE ARE, BAT--
--EH?
THANKS--BUT I ALREADY KNOW!
YOU'RE THE CLUMSY KIND!
WHACK

NOW WHY DON'T YOU BACK OFF BEFORE YOU HURT YOURSELF?
DON'T SWEAT IT, MASKED MAN!
THE ONLY DUDE WHO'S GONNA GET HURT AROUND HERE IS--
SPHAK!
HUH?
AND EVEN AS THE STARTLED THUGS AND THE BATTLE-READY BATMAN WWWHL...
OKAY, EVERYBODY-- FREEZE! YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST!
NOT YET, WE AREN'T, FRIEND!
INSTANTLY, TWO-FACE STABS A CONCEALED BUTTON ON THE UNDERSIDE OF HIS OVERTURNED DESK--
--AND THE DIVISION OF THE BIZARRE SPLIT-ROOM SUDDENLY BECOMES A GOOD DEAL MORE PRONOUNCED!
WHAT IN--?!?
A SOLID STEEL PANEL-- SPLITTING THE ROOM IN HALF!
CUTTING US OFF FROM TWO-FACE AND HIS GANG--!
CLANG!
HAVE TO GET THROUGH-- BEFORE THEY GET AWAY!
POUNDING WON'T HELP! THERE HAS TO BE A SECOND BUTTON OF THIS SIDE OF THE--
THERE-- FOUND IT!
BUT TOO LATE! TWO-FACE AND COMPANY ARE LONG GONE!
WHICH ISN'T SURPRISING, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED!
10
CONTINUED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING

# Pete Rose BATTING PRACTICE

©1979 TURCO MANUFACTURING COMPANY

HEY PETE! WHATS THE SECRET? HOW DID YOU GET TO BE SUCH A GREAT BATTER?

PRACTICE BOBBY. PRACTICE IS THE KEY TO MY SUCCESS IN BASEBALL.

AND NOW YOU CAN LEARN TO BE A WINNER WITH PETE ROSE BATTING PRACTICE!

JUST TWIST IT IN...

PULL THE ADJUSTABLE SUPER-STRETCH CORD...

AND PITCH! HIGH, LOW, FAST OR SLOW!

WHACK!

INCLUDES GROUND ANCHOR, AUTOGRAPHED RUBBER BASEBALL, SUPER-STRETCH CORD

BASE HIT!

AND NO MORE LOST BALLS!

SEE BOBBY, WITH ENOUGH PRACTICE YOU COULD BE SETTING RECORDS JUST LIKE ME!

LEARN TO PLAY LIKE THE PROS WITH

Pete Rose BATTING PRACTICE

Look for it in the toy and sporting goods section of your favorite store.

Turco

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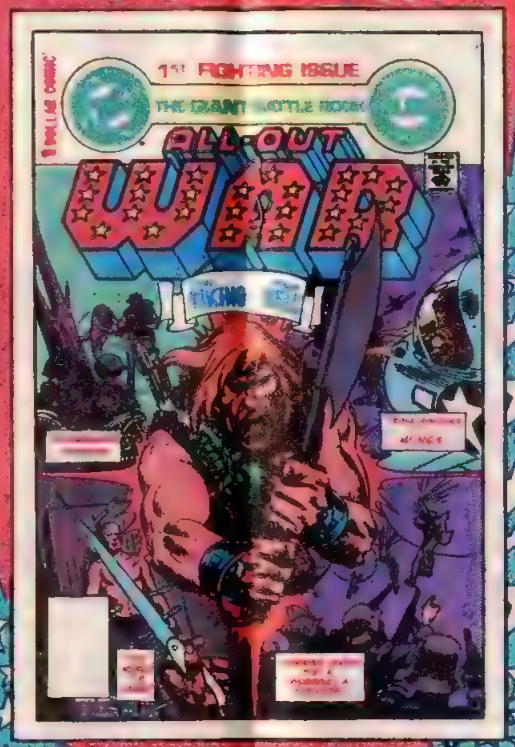


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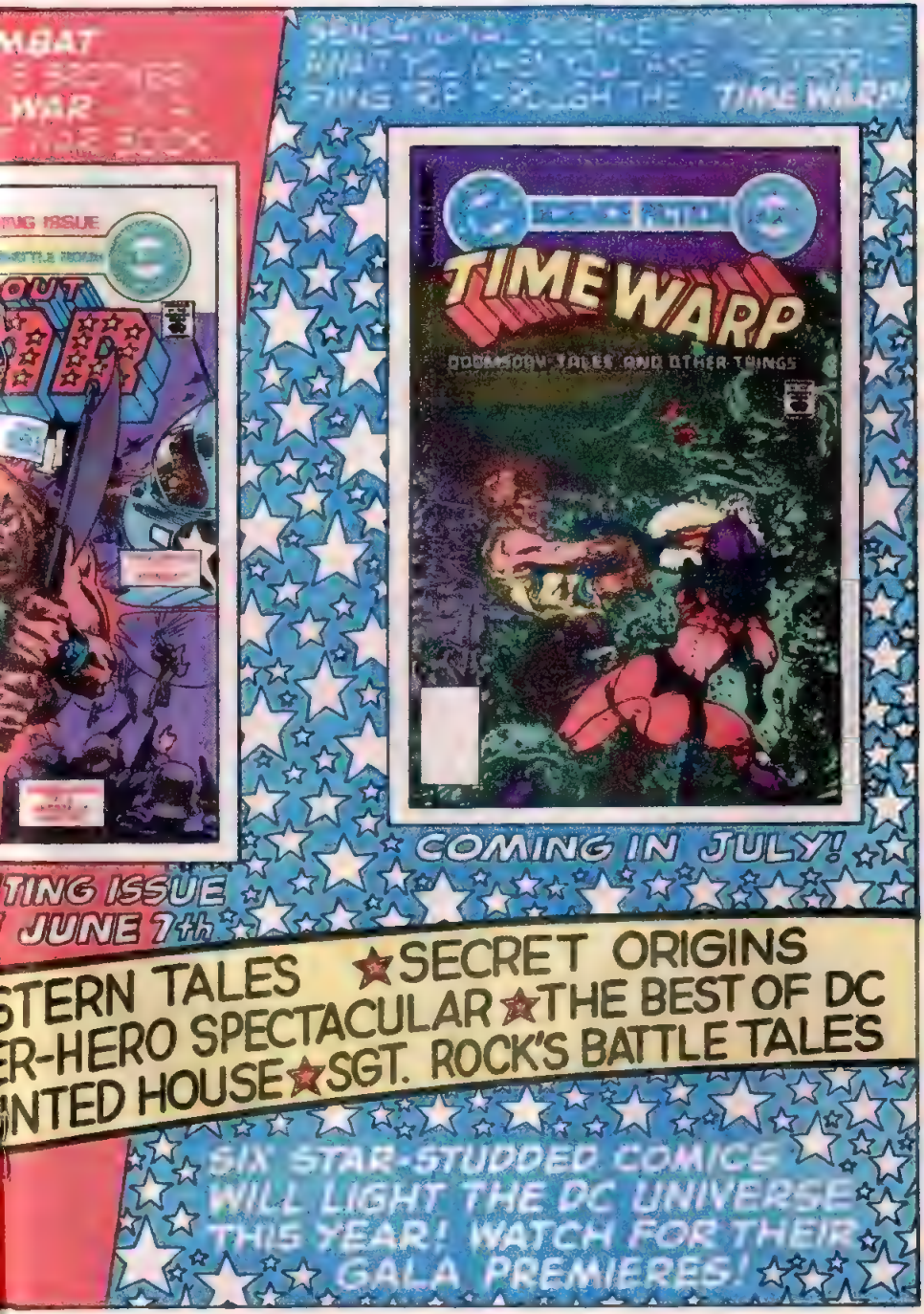
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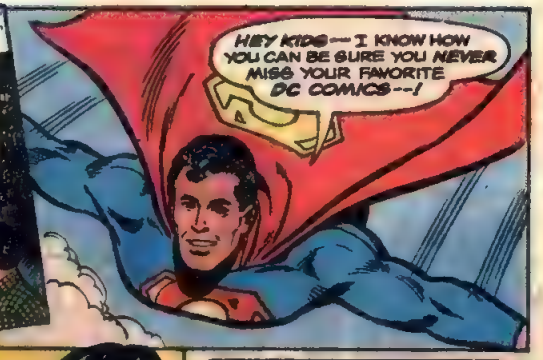

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MY NAME IS KING FARADAY!
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AND I WOULD HAVE HAD IT IF YOU HADN'T BUSTED IN HERE BEFORE ME!
I'VE BEEN KEEPING THIS PLACE UNDER SURVEILLANCE FOR HOURS!
SORRY... I DIDN'T KNOW!
WELL, KNOW THIS, FRIEND! TWO-FACE POSES A THREAT TO THIS NATION'S SECURITY!
AND NO COSTUMED VIGILANTE, NO MATTER HOW FAMOUS, IS GOING TO STOP ME FROM NAILING HIM!
FROM NOW ON, BATMAN-- STAY OUT OF MY WAY!
I'M SORRY, FARADAY--BUT I CAN'T PROMISE YOU THAT! I'VE GOT A PERSONAL STAKE IN THIS MESS!
YOU KNOW THAT TWO-FACE WAS ONCE DISTRICT ATTORNEY HARVEY DENT--BEFORE ACID SCARRED HALF HIS FACE AND DROVE HIM HOPELESSLY INSANE!
WELL, I OWE A DEBT TO THE MAN THAT WAS!
I OWE IT TO THE MEMORY OF HARVEY DENT TO PUT TWO-FACE WHERE HE'LL NEVER HARM ANYONE EVER AGAIN!
LOOK, WE CAN ARGUE THIS ALL NIGHT--
--BUT IT'S ALL PRETTY MOOT IF WE CAN'T LOCATE TWO-FACE AGAIN!
I DON'T THINK THAT'S A PROBLEM, FARADAY!
TWO-FACE HASN'T GOT THE CODE EITHER RIGHT NOW--
--AND I'VE GOT THE UNCOMFORTABLE FEELING I KNOW WHERE WE'LL BE ABLE TO FIND THEM BOTH!

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NO, THANKS, DAD--YOU AND TIMOTHY JUST TAKE IT EASY! I'LL STICK THESE THINGS IN THE DISHWASHER!
BETTER MAKE IT QUICK, SIS--WE MAY NEED A REFEREE!
HOW ARE THINGS GOING IN COLLEGE, SON? KEEPING UP WITH YOUR CLASSES?
I KNEW IT! WE'RE GONNA START THAT AGAIN!
WELL, MY GRADES ARE JUST FINE, POP--DESPITE THE SO-CALLED POOR COMPANY YOU CLAIM I'M KEEPING!
TIM, PLEASE-- I'M ONLY LOOKING OUT FOR WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU!
WELL, THANKS LOADS-- BUT I'M OLD ENOUGH TO LOOK OUT FOR MYSELF!
ARE YOU, SON? YOU CERTAINLY HAVEN'T DONE MUCH LATELY TO PROVE IT!
HEY, IT SOUNDS LIKE WORLD WAR THREE OUT HERE! WHAT'S GOING ON?
NOT MUCH, SIS-- JUST THE SAME OLD GARBAGE!
OUR DEAR FATHER IS TRYING TO LIVE MY LIFE FOR ME AGAIN!
TIM-- NO! I JUST...
CRASH
DON'T BE UPSET, DAD-- HE'LL BE BACK!
I CAN'T HELP IT, TIFF-- I'M WORRIED ABOUT THAT BOY!
REALLY WORRIED
12
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

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Signature
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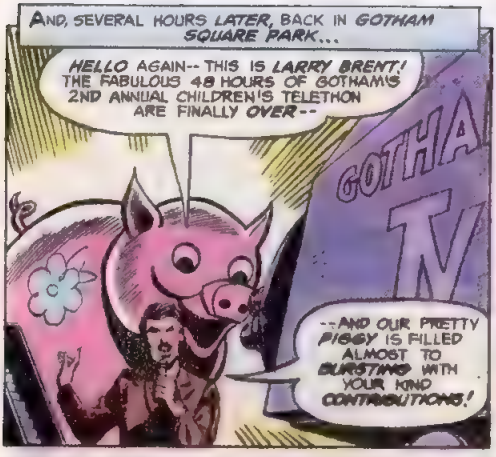
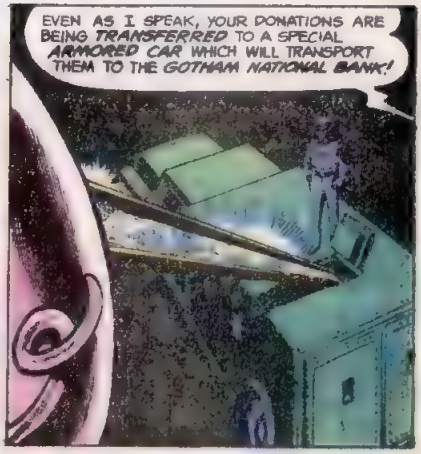
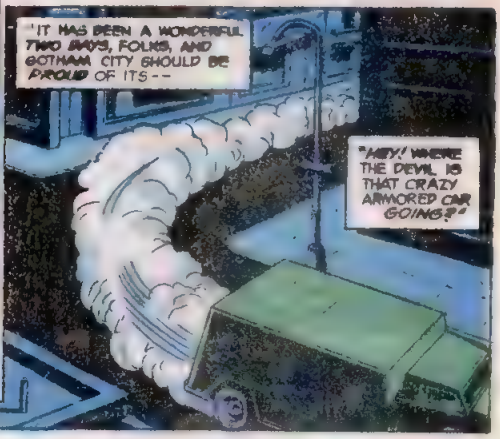
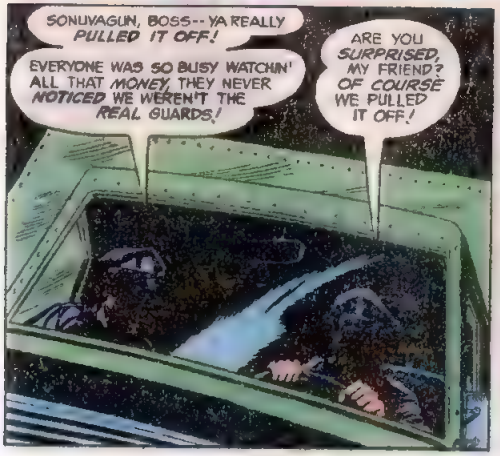

AND, SEVERAL HOURS LATER, BACK IN GOTHAM SQUARE PARK...
HELLO AGAIN-- THIS IS LARRY BRENT, THE FABULOUS 48 HOURS OF GOTHAM'S 2ND ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TELETHON ARE FINALLY OVER--
--AND OUR PRETTY PIGGY IS FILLED ALMOST TO BURSTING WITH YOUR KIND CONTRIBUTIONS!
GOTHA
TV


EVEN AS I SPEAK, YOUR DONATIONS ARE BEING TRANSFERRED TO A SPECIAL ARMORED CAR WHICH WILL TRANSPORT THEM TO THE GOTHAM NATIONAL BANK!

OUR CAMERAS WILL FOLLOW THE CAR TO THE BANK--WHERE THE MONEY WILL BE COUNTED--
--AND THEN OFFICIALLY PRESENTED TO THE GOTHAM CHILDREN'S FUND!
GOTHAM
TV


"IT HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL TWO DAYS, FOLKS, AND GOTHAM CITY SHOULD BE PROUD OF ITS--
"HEY! WHERE THE DEVIL IS THAT CRAZY ARMORED CAR GOING?!"


SONUVAGUN, BOSS--YA REALLY PULLED IT OFF!
EVERYONE WAS SO BUSY WATCHIN' ALL THAT MONEY, THEY NEVER NOTICED WE WEREN'T THE REAL GUARDS!
ARE YOU SURPRISED, MY FRIEND? OF COURSE WE PULLED IT OFF!

YOU SHOULD KNOW BY NOW-- TWO-FACE NEVER FAILS!!

I SURE HOPE YER RIGHT ABOUT THAT, BOSS--
--'CAUSE WE GOT COMPANY!
BUT EVEN AS THE SLEEK BATMOBILE PULLS ALONGSIDE THE FLEEING ARMORED CAR...
GET OUT OF MY WAY, BATMAN--OR I'LL RUN YOU DOWN!
WHAM!
SKREEEEEE
BLAST--! IT'S LIKE TRYING TO TANGLE WITH A TANK!
DON'T WORRY, FARADAY--THE BATMOBILE IS JUST AS HEAVILY ARMORED!
BUT THE WAY THEY'RE WEAVING BACK AND FORTH, BATMAN--WE'LL NEVER OVERTAKE THEM!
HAVE A LITTLE CONFIDENCE, FARADAY! THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO STOP THAT TRUCK--
--AND THE BATMOBILE IS WELL-EQUIPPED FOR THEM ALL!
AT THE FLIP OF A SWITCH, THE BATMOBILE'S HEADLIGHTS SUDDENLY BEGIN TO GLOW AN EERIE RED--
CLICK!
--AND TWIN LASER BEAMS INSTANTLY LANCE FORTH, SHREDDING THE ARMORED CAR'S REAR TIRES--
BAM!
BLAM!

--THUS SENDING THE RAMPAGING VEHICLE CAREENING OUT OF CONTROL INTO A THICK BRICK WAREHOUSE WALL!
KROOM
NICE TRY, BATMAN--BUT WE AIN'T FINISHED YET!
FACT IS--WE'RE GONNA FINISH YOU!
YOU'RE WELCOME TO TRY, PUNKS--
--BUT YOU'RE ONLY WASTING YOUR TIME!
WRONG, BATS--WE'RE WASTIN' YOU!
THAT'S TWICE I'VE HAD TO PROTECT YOUR BACK NOW, BATMAN!
UUNNFF!
WHAK!
IT'S STARTING TO BECOME A REALLY ANNOYING HABIT!
TWO-FACE IS TRYING TO MAKE HIS GETAWAY IN THE CONFUSION--
--AND HE'S TAKING THE STOLEN BINARY CODE WITH HIM!
AND EVEN AS THE DARKKNIGHT DETECTIVE SCRAMBLES AFTER HIS FOE...
APPARENTLY, SPECS STOLE THE CODE BACK FROM TWO-FACE--AND STASHED IT INSIDE THE TELETHON'S GIANT PIGGY BANK!
THEN SPECS CALLED THE POLICE TO TELL THEM WHERE TO FIND IT--
--BUT TWO-FACE FOUND SPECS FIRST!
ALL RIGHT, MISTER--THIS IS AS FAR AS YOU'RE GOING!

WRONG, BATMAN--I'M GOING OVER THE TOP! BUT THE ONLY PLACE YOU'RE GOING IS--
--DOWN!
WHOK!
UUNNHH!!
KICK STUNNED ME--LOST MY GRIP--!
HAVE TO DO SOMETHING TO BREAK MY FALL--
--BEFORE MY FALL BREAKS ME!
UUNNHH!!
THAT WAS PAINFUL --BUT EFFECTIVE!
THE GOON SQUAD IS OUT FOR THE COUNT! HOW DID YOU DO WITH--
NO! TWO-FACE IS MAKING HIS ESCAPE!
MAYBE YOU COULDN'T HANDLE HIM, BATMAN--BUT I CAN!
I'M WARNING YOU, TWO-FACE--STOP WHERE YOU ARE!
STOP--OR I'LL SHOOT!
FARADAY--NO!
HEY--!
LET GO OF ME, YOU IDIOT! YOU'RE THROWING OFF MY AIM--!
BAM!
BAM!
TWO-FACE WILL GET...
...AWAY.
HA HA HA HA HA H
16

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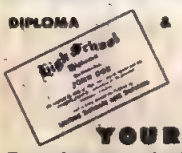

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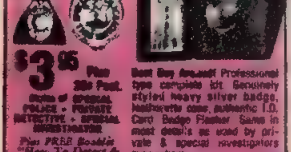


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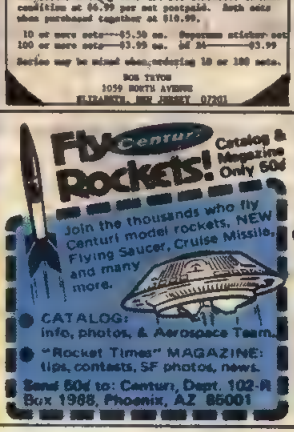
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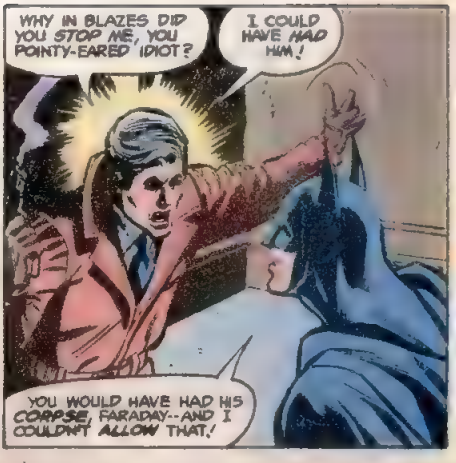

WHY IN BLAZES DID YOU STOP ME, YOU POINTY-EARED IDIOT?
I COULD HAVE HAD HIM!
YOU WOULD HAVE HAD HIS CORPSE, FARADAY-- AND I COULDN'T ALLOW THAT!

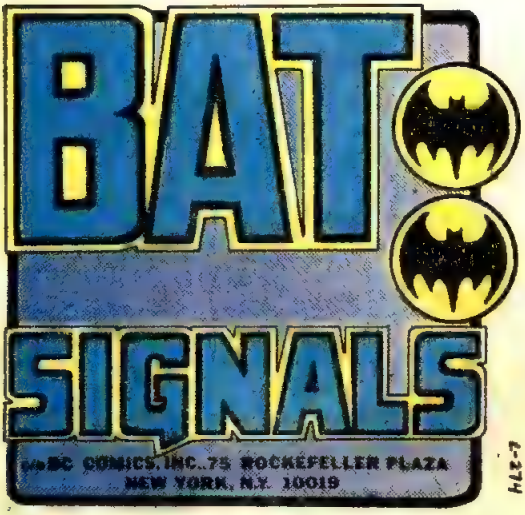
EVEN IF YOU'RE RIGHT, THAT POOR MISUNDERSTOOD MANIAC HAS STOLEN SOMETHING THAT PUTS THIS ENTIRE COUNTRY IN JEOPARDY!
AND ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, I'M GOING TO GET THAT BINARY CODE BACK!

**NEXT ISSUE:**

THE TRAIL OF TWO-FACE LEADS TO NEW ORLEANS... THE MARDI GRAS... AND A LIFE-AND-DEATH STRUGGLE IN THE SKY! JOIN US FOR...

"ONCE BEATEN... TWICE SLY!"

ON SALE MAY 10TH




Dear Gothamites,

I didn't look forward to a new story with Mr. Freeze, a villain I'd hoped would remain on ice, but *BATMAN* #308 proved to be much better than I'd expected. I dislike pseudo-science-fictional gimmickry in *BATMAN* unless it's used only once in a while, and then used to create an eerie, horror-film atmosphere for the story. You may be putting the fantastic into *BATMAN* a bit too often now, what with Blockbuster following Mr. Freeze and the Gentleman Ghost right behind. But you are getting the horror element down right, first with your macabre treatment of the new Clayface and now with 308's Frankenstein monster sequences for Blockbuster.

The trouble is that the horror story atmosphere isn't strong enough. You don't give us a feel for the grotesque nature of Freeze's mind as Len did with Clayface and as Englehart did with his villains. We observe Freeze solely from the outside and his personality seems bland, not Mephistophelean and perverse, as your Faustian tale demands.

Somebody has got to answer for Freeze's new costume, a blatantly obvious Captain Cold ripoff. Sure, his old suit didn't look very thrilling, but it communicated vividly the scariest idea about Freeze: he's something of a monster, who can only walk among normal men if he's weighted down in a suit full of refrigerating equipment.

You come up with very reasonable ways for Batman to shrug off Freeze's cold tricks—disconnecting his power lines and wearing insulating salve. I liked the way you continue to concentrate on Wayne's role as head of a business empire, and the way you've picked up on Englehart's idea that Batman's costumed foes have great wealth at their disposal (Freeze owns a whole building.).

Peter Sanderson
Room 921 Johnson Hall
Columbia University
411 West 116 Street
New York, NY 10027

*Sorry to cut your letter so, Peter, but we wanted to cover at least a couple of your points. As we recall, many of Batman's foes going back to the Golden Age had incalculable wealth at their command—the various Joker hideouts spring to mind—so that's not original to Steve or Len, though both get kudos for picking up on it. And Len gets the credit or blame for Mr. Freeze's new look.—PL*

* * * * *

Paul,

Please print this letter so I can warn everyone! Warn everyone of what, you may well ask? Well, I'll tell you.

It's no one at DC's fault. How could you have known? How could have anyone have guessed that when DC hired Len Wein that they had created one of the greatest menaces the world has ever known? That they had created a villain more insidious than any writer could ever create? It's true, I tell you! Let me explain.

First of all, I must reveal the heretofore unknown fact that Len is power-mad. Whenever he goes to a comic book company, he is seized by an evil lust. He insists on writing only the top features. He starts out on some back feature or less-known title. He then bides his time and then strikes! I have proof to accompany these accusations.

Take Wein's tenure at Marvel for instance. In late '73-early '74, Len moved to Marvel. Before this he had been writing some of DC top features: Superman, The Batman and JLA. Three of DC's top sellers. When he moved to Marvel, he worked on some of the less-known features like Spidey's team-up book and a certain defending group. Then suddenly, the power-instinct in Wein took over. In a swift, vicious coup, he wrested control of Marvel's books from Roy Thomas and the stage was set for the beginning of the Wein empire. All feared Len; not even Stan himself dared challenge the Wein authority. Finally Marv Wolfman, Len's close friend, eventually talked Len down from his position. But, not before Len managed to take control of the web-slinger, green Goliath, thunder god and fabulous foursome. Marv, meanwhile, repeating Len's earlier victory, took over Len's post; but that's another story.

Two or three editor-in-chiefs later, Len decided to return to DC and see what havok he could wreak. The despot realized that it would be a little difficult to become an editor again, so he decided he would start writing the big guns again. He timed his move back to DC so that it would occur at the same moment that Steve Englehart would be leaving. This meant that DETECTIVE and MR. MIRACLE (after Steve Gerber) would be up for assignment. His plans were frustrated when MM was cancelled. He sweet-talked Julius Schwartz into letting him have 'TEC. Lovable, intelligent, and sentimental as Julie is, he was taken in by the fiends words. Phase One of Wein's Master Plan was complete. The next part of the plot involved his getting BATMAN and stifling the competition of Bat-writers. He approached Denny O'Neil and David V. Reed (at that time the writers of BATMAN FAMILY and BATMAN, respectively). Len, innocently (supposedly), suggested that they all switch Bat-assignments. Denny would do 'TEC, David would handle BATFAM and the master villain himself would take BATMAN. David and Denny, suspecting nothing, agreed. Len meanwhile acquired Deadman, the Human Target and The Demon—his power grew.

So, you see for yourself what a fiend Len Wein is and...WHAT!?...Oh, my God! Paul, do something! I just heard that Len has taken over SUPERMAN! Gods, that means he got Pasko! I knew I was right! Why did I wait so long? I should have written this letter the minute Wein arrived at DC. Now he's gotten Pasko, who knows where he'll stop? Paul, I've recently learned that you're going to take over WONDER WOMAN. All I can tell you is this: Lock your doors at night. Don't find yourself alone with Wein for a minute. He could strike at any minute. Stop him before it's too late!!

Robert Sallion
61 Columbia Ave.
Newark, NJ 07106

*We printed your letter because it interested everyone at the office, Robert, but we're not quite sure what the point is. Do you really think that Len mi—gasp—*

*Ahem. Excuse the sudden switch, but it's your new editor here, Len Wein, to announce that Paul seems to have...um...disappeared. And I'm taking over Wonder Woman, Flash, Green Lantern, and anything else anyone was working on.*

*See ya.*

* * * * *

*NEXT MONTH: "Once Beaten—Twice Sly" as the Batman squares off against Two-Face in New Orleans at the Mardi Gras! And while you're waiting, a gold star to the trivia fan who remembers which magazine featured King Faraday's debut!—PL*

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VOLUME 79 ISSUE 14 WEEK OF APRIL 9, 1979 BOB ROZAKIS: EDITOR ANTHONY TOLLIN: PRODUCTION

# WAR "GAME"!

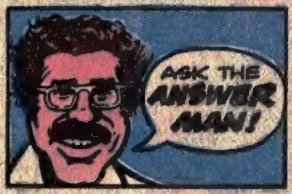
**SGT. ROCK STALKED BY NAZI KILLER!**

(World War II)—Trapped in a French forest with an insane Nazi fighter pilot, Sgt. Rock finds himself the prey in a deadly game of cat-and-mouse! Can the battle-scarred non-com outwit his fanatical foe? Or will Sgt. Rock wind up as a "G.I. Trophy" on his enemy's wall? Find out in this suspenseful battle thriller by Robert Kanigher and Frank Redondo in *SGT ROCK* #330.

Then turn back the battle clock to the bloodstained skies of World War I for a story of two star-crossed lovers, an innocent French girl and a handsome American pilot, and their ultimate "Rendezvous" with destiny.

Finally, a proud Prussian cavalryman and his noble "Warhorse" fight as one on the battlefield. United, they're the ultimate fighting machine—or are they?

Don't miss any of these tales of wartime battle action. *SGT. ROCK* #330 goes on sale the week of April 23rd.




**Q:** About how many letters do you get a week?—Steve Haynie. **A:** More than I can answer in one column, which is why it takes up to a year (yes, a year) for your questions to get into print. I do try to use every letter in the column, so keep watching if you've been wondering where yours is. (Steve's letter, by the way, is dated May 14, 1978.)

**Q:** What happens to your subscription if the magazine is discontinued?—Daniel Billings. **A:** It is transferred to another magazine.

**Q:** Who in the *Justice League* doesn't have two identities?—Nelson Goris. **A:** Though *Aquaman* is also Arthur Curry and *Red Tornado* is John Smith, neither seems to be active in plain clothes. *Elongated Man's* Ralph Dibny identity is known to the world, *Zatanna* has no alter ego, and the *Phantom Stranger* is a mystery to everybody.

**Q:** Will we ever see *Rose and the Thorn* again?—Phil Matrale. **A:** Look no further than *SUPERMAN* #336.

**ASSASSINS PLOT DEATH OF LEGION!**

(30th Century)—The *Legion of Super-Heroes* accused of mass murder!? That's what happens in the latest issue of *SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION* when the galaxy's mightiest teens are blamed for the annihilation of an entire solar system and *billions* of innocent victims.

And determined to avenge the death of their home worlds are Lazon, The Silver Slasher, Titania, Neutrax, Blok, and Mist Master—*The League of Super-Assassins*! Don't miss this star-shattering clash between two of the most powerful forces of the 30th Century by Gerry Conway, Joe Staton, and Dave Hunt in *SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION* #253, on sale the week of April 23rd.

**Q:** How many people work in the *DC* offices at 75 Rockefeller Plaza?—Jeffrey E. Grinley. **A:** About 25; our writers, artists, letterers and colorists are freelancers who work at home.

**Q:** What comics did Joe Kubert write?—David Skea. **A:** Some of the *Tarzan* adventures, *Tor*, and he had a hand in numerous other stories he has drawn and edited.

**Q:** Pete Morisisi once did a story for *DARK MANSION* #11 and I really liked his style. Any chance he'll be back at *DC*?—Edward Coyle. **A:** Not in the near future.

**Q:** Does Green Lantern's ring ever run out of power?—Vivek Dehejia. **A:** It will after 24 hours if he doesn't recharge it.

## DIRECT CURRENTS

*ON SALE WEEK OF APRIL 23rd*

*HOUSE OF MYSTERY* #270—Learn where a hobby can lead in "The Collector" by J.M. DeMatteis, Jim Sherman and Joe Rubinstein; pose for "A Model Murder" with Scott Edelman and Tenny Henson; and attend a "Black Mass" with Wyatt Gwyon, Jerry Bingham and Billy Wrey.

*SUPERMAN* #337—It's the Man of Steel's busiest day as he faces "Too Many Crooks" (including *Terra-Man, Brainiac, the Toyman, Bizarro* and *Metallo*) by Len Wein, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte.

*WARLORD* #23—Mike Grell and Vince Colletta provide an encounter between Travis Morgan and the "Children of Ba'al"

*WONDER WOMAN* #257—The "Case of the Impossible Crimes" puzzles the Amazing Amazon in this Paul Levitz/Paul Kupperberg/Jose Delbo/Joe Giella collaboration.

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*ADVENTURE COMICS* #464 / *BATMAN* #313 / *DC COMICS PRESENTS* #11 (*Superman* and *Hawkman*) / *THE FLASH* #275 / *GHOSTS* #78 / *JONAH HEX* #28 / *JUSTICE LEAGUE* #168 / *MEN OF WAR* #18 / *SUPERMAN FAMILY* #196 / *UNEXPECTED* #192 / *WEIRD WAR TALES* #77 / *WORLD OF KRYPTON* #1

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